

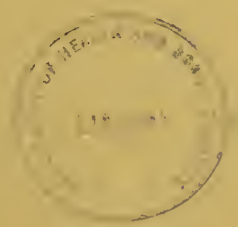
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Builth Wells  
Urban District Council



REPORTS  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
and  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for the Year 1968





Builth Wells  
Urban District Council



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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
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PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for the Year 1968

J. K. JONES, L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

J. E. MORGAN, M.P.H.I.A., M.R.S.H.  
*Public Health Inspector.*

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
BUILTH WELLS.

Tel. Builth Wells 3214



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## **BUILTH WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

---

Chairman : B. E. PUGH, Esq.

Vice-Chairman : H. J. FRICKER, Esq.

Members of the Council :

W. S. Pritchard, Esq.

R. S. Davies, Esq.

L. W. Howell, Esq.

H. A. Lewis, Esq.

D. J. Metcalf, Esq.

J. A. Davies, Esq.

J. Jones, Esq.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER :

J. K. Thompson

SURVEYOR : J. E. Morgan, M.P.H.I.A., M.R.S.H.

## STATISTICS.

Area of District	..	..	..	..	..	701 acres
Population (estimated) Mid 1968	..	..	..	..	..	1570
Population per acre	..	..	..	..	..	0.45
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1968	..	..	..	..	..	£44,512
Number of Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	24
Birth Rate per 1000 inhabitants, crude	..	..	..	..	..	15.3
Number of Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	0
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	0
Number of Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	38
Death rate per 1000 inhabitants, crude	..	..	..	..	..	24.2
Number of Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	..	..	..	..	..	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	41.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate	..	..	..	..	..	0
Number of Infectious Diseases notified	..	..	..	..	..	6
Infectious Diseases—Attack rate per 1000 inhabitants	..	..	..	..	..	3.8

### Tuberculosis :—

Cases notified	..	..	..	..	..	0
Attack rate per 1000 inhabitants	..	..	..	..	..	0
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	0
Death rate per 1000 inhabitants	..	..	..	..	..	0

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**for the Year 1968.**

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To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the  
BUILTH WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the Public Health in the Builth Wells Urban District during the year 1968.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding Public Health and Preventive Medicine, and I have included comments on the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/69 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Public Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your Obedient Servant,

**J. K. JONES,**

L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.



Census 1931	..	1663
Census 1951	..	1708
Census 1961	..	1602
Mid Year Estimate 1968	..	1570

1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
1510	1510	1580	1570	1560	1600	1600	1600	1590	1570

<b>Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1968 :</b>	..	..	..	..	<b>£44,512</b>
---	----	----	----	----	----------------

<b>Rate in the Pound :</b>	1967/68	..	15/2d.
	1968/69	..	16/4d.

<b>Total number of Domestic Dwellings</b>	..	..	..	536
---	----	----	----	-----

<b>Number of Council Houses in the Domestic Dwelling figures</b>	..	..	93
--	----	----	----

# BIRTHS.

BIRTHS				BUILTH U.D.C.			B.C.C.	National Average
				Male	Female	Total		
Live Births : Legitimate	..			12	12	24	725	
Live Births : Illegitimate	..	..		0	0	0	51	
Total Live Births	..	..		12	12	24	776	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	..	..				0	6.57	
Registrar General's Comparability Factor						1.26	1.11	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Pop. (crude)						15.3	14.0	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Pop. (corr.)						19.3	15.5	16.9
Still Births—Legitimate	..					0	12	
Still Births : Illegitimate	..					0	1	
Total : Still Births	..	..				0	13	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	..	..				0	16.5	14.0
Total Live and Still Births	..	..				24	789	

The corrected Live Birth Rate of 19.3 is above the National Average of 16.9 per 1,000 population and above the National Average for the fourth year in succession.

There were no Still Births during 1968.

The National Still Birth rate was 14.0 per 1,000 Total Births.

The Local Birth Rate of 19.3 was just higher than the local Death rate of 18.4 per 1,000 population.

Corrected Live Birth rates for the past five years are shown below :

			1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Builth U.D.C.	..	..	14.1	26.7	19.6	20.6	19.3
National Average	..	..	18.5	18.1	17.7	17.2	16.9

# DEATHS.

DEATHS	BUILTH U.D.C.			B.C.C.	National Average
	Male	Female	Total		
Total Deaths (all causes) ..	20	18	38	757	
Death Rate per 1,000 Pop. (crude) ..			24.2	13.7	
Registrar Comparability Factor ..			0.76	0.88	
Death Rate per 1,000 Pop. (corrected) ..			18.4	12.1	11.9
CANCER DEATHS					
Cancer Deaths (all forms) ..	2	5	7	114	
Cancer Deaths Rate per 1,000 Pop. ..			4.46	2.06	
MATERNAL MORTALITY					
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion) ..			NIL	NIL	
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ..			NIL	NIL	

The corrected Death Rate of 18.4 was considerably higher than the National average of 11.9 per 1,000 population but below the local Birth rate of 19.3 per 1,000 population.

The corrected Death rates for the past five years are shown below :

			1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Builth U.D.C. ..	..	..	13.9	10.1	10.8	16.4	18.4
National Average ..	..	..	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.8	11.9

## DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS.

There were 7 Cancer Deaths giving a rate per 100,000 Population of 446 compared with the County rate of 206.

The rates by specific site are shown below :

SITE	Rate per 100,000 Population	National average 1966
Lungs, Bronchus ..	64	39
Stomach ..	64	27
Breast (Female) ..	64	40
All other Malignant Neoplasms ..	191	—
Leukaemia ..	64	6

All the cancer death rates were higher than the National average for 1966 and the Leukaemia death rate almost eleven times the National average.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths from Maternal causes, including abortions.

# **INFANT MORTALITY.**

DEATHS	BUILTH U.D.C.			B.C.C.	National Average
	Male	Female	Total		
Deaths of Infants under 1 yr. of age :					
Legitimate ..	0	0	0	9	
Illegitimate ..	0	1	1	1	
Total ..	0	1	1	10	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000					
Live Births (total) ..			41.7	12.9	18.0
Legitimate ..			0	11.6	
Illegitimate ..			41.7	1.3	
NEONATAL MORTALITY					
Deaths of Infants under 4 wks of age :					
Legitimate ..	0	0	0	7	
Illegitimate ..	0	1	1	1	
Total ..	0	1	1	8	
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000					
Live Births ..			41.7	10.3	
EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY					
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age :					
Legitimate ..	0	0	0	6	
Illegitimate ..	0	0	0	0	
Total ..	0	0	0	6	
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000					
Live Births ..			0	7.7	
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE					
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age					
plus number of Still Births. ..			0		
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still					
Births ..			0	24.1	25.0

There was one Infant death in 1968 at age 3 weeks, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 41.7 compared with the County rate of 12.9 and the National rate of 18.0 per 1,000 total Live Births.

There were no Stillbirths or Deaths in the first week of life.

**CAUSE OF INFANT DEATH.**

**1. Bronchus Pneumonia.**

The Infant Mortality Rates and Perinatal Mortality Rates for the past five years are shown below, and compared with the National Average :

INFANT MORTALITY—			1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Builth U.D.C.	..	..	0	58.8	40.0	0	41.7
National Average	..	..	20.0	19.0	19.0	18.3	18.0

PERINATAL MORTALITY—			1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Builth U.D.C.	..	..	0	57.1	38.5	37.0	0
National Average	..	..	28.2	26.9	26.3	25.4	25.0

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

				Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasm : Stomach	..	..		0	1	1
„ „ Lung, Bronchus	..	..		1	0	1
„ „ Breast	..	..		0	1	1
Leukaemia	..	..		0	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	..	..		1	2	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	..	..		10	5	15
Other Forms of Heart Disease	..	..		1	0	1
Cerebro-Vascular Disease	..	..		2	2	4
Other Diseases—Circulatory System	..	..		1	0	1
Pneumonia	..	..		0	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	..		0	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	..	..		0	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	..	..		0	1	1
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	..	..		0	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..		4	0	4
All other Accidents	..	..		0	1	1
Total : All Causes	..	..	..	20	18	38

The main causes of death are shown below and the death rates compared with the National average for 1966.

### CRUDE DEATH RATES PER 100,000 FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

			Llanwrtyd U.D.C.	National Average 1966
Ischaemic Heart Disease	..	..	955	235
Malignant Neoplasms	..	..	448	225
All Accidents	..	..	318	51
Cerebro-Vascular Disease	..	..	255	164
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	..	..	64	70

# NUMBER OF DEATHS IN SEX-AGE GROUPS.

Ages at Death		Male	Female	Total	Percentage of Total
0—1 year	..	0	1	1	2.6
1—4 years	..	0	1	1	2.6
5—14 years	..	0	0	0	—
15—24 years	..	2	1	3	7.9
25—34 years	..	2	0	2	5.2
35—44 years	..	0	0	0	—
45—54 years	..	1	0	1	2.6
55—64 years	..	2	1	3	7.9
65—74 years	..	1	4	5	13.2
75 years and over	..	12	10	22	57.9
		20	18	38	100.0

71% of the deaths occurred at age 65 years and over.



## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

### **NOTIFICATIONS.**

The following cases, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during 1968 :

Diseases	Number of Cases	
Infective Hepatitis	..	3
Measles	..	2
Meningitis	..	1

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

Cases on Register at 1st January, 1968	..	..	8
New Notifications during 1968	..	..	0
Removals during 1968	..	..	2
Cases on Register at 31st December, 1968	..	..	6

### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. S.172.**

No action was taken under this section which deals with the removal to Hospital by the Local Authority of infectious persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory tract.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS**

No action was taken under these Regulations in respect of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, employed in the Milk trade.

### **B.C.G. VACCINATION AND TUBERCULIN SERIAL TESTING OF CHILDREN.**

This is carried out by the Medical Staff of the County Health Department.

### **FOOD POISONING.**

There were no cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year.

### **DYSENTRY.**

There were no cases of Dysentery notified during the year.

### **TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID.**

No cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid were notified during 1968.

### **VENEREAL DISEASES.**

There were no cases notified during the year.

The County Council has an agreement with the Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of these cases. There are no treatment centres in the area and patients attend at Swansea Mount Pleasant Hospital, Hereford County Hospital, Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, and Moira Terrace, Cardiff. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, S.47**

No action was taken by the Council under S.47 of the above Act which provides for the removal to suitable premises of persons who :—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, or physically incapacitated, or living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE.**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.**

Mr. J. E. Morgan remained as the Public Health Inspector.

### **LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

During the year facilities were available at the Public Health Laboratories at Cardiff, Newport, Swansea, Carmarthen and Shrewsbury.

All Water samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen and Milk samples were dealt with at Carmarthen.

Any investigations required in the control of Infectious Diseases were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory in Carmarthen and Shrewsbury.

### **COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES.**

#### **HEALTH SERVICES.**

The County Council are responsible for the following services in the Area.

1. Provision of Health Centres.
2. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
3. Midwifery Services.
4. Health Visiting and Health Education.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance and Sitting Car Service.
8. Prevention and Illness, Care of After-Care.
9. Domestic Help Service.

The following Clinics are held in the area :—

Child Welfare Clinics.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Measles.

Relaxation Clinics for Expectant Mothers.

Dental Clinics for Expectant Mothers and Children.

Supply of Welfare Foods.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Chiropody Clinics.

Cervical Cytology Clinics.

## **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

### **PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER.**

Miss Gwen Morgan remained as the Psychiatric Social Worker for the Area.

### **MENTAL WELFARE OFFICER.**

Mr. David J. Davies remained as the Mental Welfare Officer for the Area.

## **WELFARE SERVICES.**

The County Council is responsible for the following services in the Area :—

1. Provision of Homes for the Aged.
2. Provision of Temporary Accommodation.
3. Registration and Provision of Services for Handicapped Persons.
4. Contributions to Old People's Organizations.
5. Temporary Protection of Property.
6. Meals on Wheels Service.
7. Provision of Grants towards Special Housing for the elderly.
8. Welfare of the Blind and Partially-Sighted.
9. Welfare for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

## **HOSPITALS.**

Hospital facilities are available at the Builth Wells Cottage Hospital and the Hereford Hospitals.

## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES, HOSPITAL.**

Cases are admitted to the Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.

## **SMALLPOX HOSPITALS.**

Arrangements have been made for Smallpox cases to be admitted to Penrhyss Hospital and for Consultants to be called in to suspected cases. On diagnosing a case the Consultant will be responsible for arranging for Penrhys Hospital to be ready and staffed to receive the patient. The patient will be removed by County Council under their Ambulance scheme made under S.27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

### **1. WATER SUPPLIES.**

The Water supplying the town is obtained from two main sources—an impounding reservoir at Tycapel, and the Hengwm Springs. The main supply gravitates to a High Pressure Filter plant for screening before chlorination and storage in an underground reservoir. During 1966 the Radnor and North Breconshire Water Board was constituted and the function of the Builth Wells U.D.C. as a water authority ceased.

#### **Water Samples.**

Five samples of water were submitted for analysis and in each case the reports were satisfactory.

### **2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

The sewer system of the town discharges crude sewage into the River Wye via two outfalls. A scheme for the construction of a new sewage works to take the sewage from the town and the areas of Llanelwedd and Oaklands has been prepared, and is being installed by Contractors working under Consultant Engineers.

Number of houses not connected to main sewer	..	10
Number of houses connected to septic tanks	..	9
Number of houses served by earth closets	..	1
Number of inspections concerned with drainage	..	3

### **3. PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

Household and trade refuse is collected once per week, and this frequency of service is considered adequate. The refuse is stored in bins and other containers which are placed on the kerbside to await collection. The disposal of refuse is by tipping at the Caeau Farm. The cleansing of highways is carried out jointly by this Council and the County Council. A mechanical suction cleaner traverses the main streets twice weekly while the secondary roads are swept once per week. Litter baskets are placed liberally throughout the main streets and public open spaces.

### **4. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**

The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector. The following are the details :

#### **Nuisances.**

Number of complaints received	..	5
Number of complaints investigated	..	5
Number of premises inspected	..	5
Number of premises re-visited	..	3
Number of preliminary notices served	..	2

### **Houses Let in Lodgings.**

It is not considered that any of the houses in the district are of such a nature as to require control under Section 6 of the Housing Act, 1936.

### **Offensive Trades.**

There are no offensive trades in the district.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

### **Licensed Premises.**

There are 10 Licensed premises in the area which supply food and alcoholic beverages to the public. There are 2 Licensed Clubs. The general standard of the sanitary conveniences in the licensed premises are good.

Number of inspections made by Public Health Inspector	4
Number of notices served (informal)	0

### **Shops.**

Number of inspections made by Public Health Inspector	5
---	---

### **Camping Sites.**

There are no recognised camping sites in the district.

### **Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

There is no problem under this section.

Number of visits	3
------------------	---

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs and steps to combat infestation.**

No premises were found to be verminous during the year.

## **RODENT CONTROL.**

The work of infecting and treating infested premises is carried out by a Council workman. The Caeau Farm refuse tip was treated regularly with good poison bait takes. The sewers were twice flushed out to assist in the control of infestations. Test baits in the manholes revealed no infestations.

Number of premises inspected during 1968	7
Number of premises found infested	5
Number of premises treated by the Rodent Operator	5
Number of premises treated by the occupier	2

### **Legal Proceedings**

No legal proceedings were undertaken by the Council during the year.

## 5. HOUSING.

A scheme for the construction of 20 bungalows was completed during 1968. Three houses were built for private occupation during the year.

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

One standard grant was approved, one discretionary grant was applied for.

### HOUSING ACTS 1957 and 1961.

Number of houses on inspection found to be unfit for human habitation	0
Number of houses the defects in which were remedied by informal action	1
Number of representations made with a view to making of Demolition or Closing Orders	0
Number of Notices served requiring the execution of works	0
Number of Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	0
Number of Demolition or Closing Orders made	0
Number of undertakings accepted	0
Number of houses demolished	0
Number of Closing Orders determined	0

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The following particulars show the work done under this new Act.

	Registrations	No. of persons employed
Offices	.. 12	62
Retail Shops	.. 26	105
Wholesale Shops/Warehouses	.. 2	12
Catering Establishments	.. 4	25
Fuel Storage Depots	.. 0	0

### SWIMMING POOL.

The swimming pool continues to be well patronised. There is one prefabricated swimming pool in the area, and one paddling pool in the area. The water supply is filtered and chlorinated.

## 6. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK.

The registration of dealers and the sampling of milk is carried out by the County Council.

#### MILK SAMPLES—BRUCELLA ABORTUS.

Number of samples of raw milk examined	..	0
Number of Ring positive samples	..	0



## MEAT.

There is no slaughterhouse within the district. The local butchers obtain their meat from the slaughterhouse in Colwyn R.D.C. and one butcher obtains supplies directly from Gloucester.

## FOOD CONDEMNED.

Tinned Luncheon Meat—36 lbs.

## FOOD PREPARATION ROOMS (INCLUDING BAKEHOUSES.)

Number of inspections made	..	4
Number of notices served	..	0

## FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Number of inspections	..	..	4
-----------------------	----	----	---

There are two such shops in the town.

## FOOD PREMISES.

The number of food premises by type are shown below :—

Licensed Hotels	..	10
Cafes	..	12
Fish and Chip Shops	..	2
Bakers	..	2
Butchers	..	4
Greengrocers	..	3
Confectioners	..	3
Grocers (General)	..	3
General Stores	..	19

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL REGULATIONS) 1960.

	No. of premises	Complying with Regulation 16	Premises to which Regulation 19 applies	Premises complying with Regulation 19
Hotels	.. 10	10	0	0
Cafes	.. 12	12	12	12
Fish and Chip Shops	.. 2	2	2	2
Bakehouses	.. 2	2	2	2
Butchers	.. 4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	.. 3	3	0	0
Confectioners	.. 3	3	0	0
Grocers	.. 3	3	0	0
General Stores	.. 19	19	0	0

## POULTRY INSPECTION.

There are no poultry processing premises in the district.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

### Prescribed Particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises 1	Number on Register 2	Number of Inspections 3	No. of Written Notices 4	Occupiers Prosecuted 5
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ..	1	2	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	17	6	0	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ..	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	18	8	0	0

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are found at the premises on two, three or more occasions they should be reckoned as two, three, or more cases.

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S1) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S2) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S3) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate Ventilation (S4) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable/defective ..	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	0	0	0	0	0

There was no out-work done in the district during the year.









